



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sleeping Bear Dunes
National Lakeshore

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Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore News Release

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Michael Duwe, 231-326-5134

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore to Hold Public Meeting on the General Management Plan

Empire, MI---The public is invited to a public meeting at the Benzie Central High School auditorium on Thursday, August 22, 2002 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The high school is located at 9300 Homestead Road, Benzonia. The purpose of the public meeting is to provide an additional opportunity for the public to express their views on the National Park Service's General Management Plan preliminary proposals. The meeting will be recorded. The Lakeshore is currently preparing a General Management Plan to provide a vision for the future of the Lakeshore and guide long-term decision-making.

Individuals requesting time to speak (up to three minutes) will be asked to place their name on a card between 5:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. and individuals will be called to speak in the order that cards are received. This format is similar to the system used at the public meetings in July. Those individuals who submitted cards but were unable to speak, because of time constraints at the July 11th public meeting in Benzie County, will be given the first opportunity. A second card sign-up period will occur from 5:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Persons signing up during this time period will be called upon to speak as time permits.

This public meeting is part of the overall public involvement initiative built into the General Management process. The public is also invited to review and provide written comments on General Management Plan Newsletter #4. The newsletter is available on the Lakeshore's website at www.nps.gov/slbe. Copies of the newsletter may also be requested by calling the Lakeshore at (231) 326-5134, E-mailing the Lakeshore at slbe_gmp@nps.gov, or writing the Superintendent at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, 9922 Front Street, Empire, MI 49630. Copies of the newsletter may also be obtained at the Lakeshore headquarters in Empire.

The public comment period has been extended. The public is encouraged to submit their written comments by Labor Day, September 2nd.

For further information contact Lakeshore headquarters at (231) 326-5134.

-NPS/SLBE-